**LEGAL** 

Application No. 10/763,724 Amendment dated January 24, 2005

## **REMARKS:**

## **Status Of Claims**

Claims 1-16 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1, 8, and 10 have been amended. Claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 17-23 have been added. Thus, claims 1-8 and 10-23 are currently pending in the application with claims 1, 8, and 14 being independent.

This amendment is accompanied by an Information Disclosure Statement listing a newly discovered reference to Onari et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,132,391. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently pending claims distinguish the present invention from Onari, and the other prior art references of record, taken alone or in combination with each other.

Any additional fee which is due in connection with this amendment should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 501-791. In view of the foregoing, a Notice of Allowance appears to be in order and such is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Ву:

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